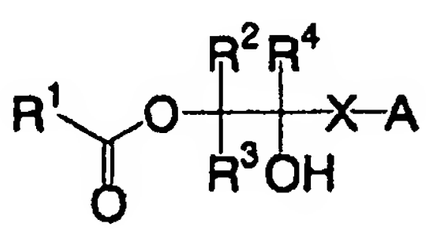
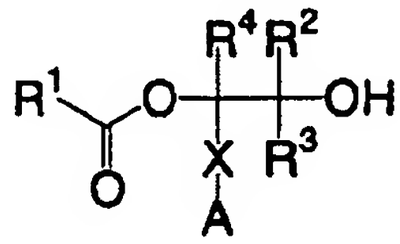
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A process for producing of a silicone compound which includes a synthesis reaction of a silicone compound represented by the following formulas (a) and/or (a'),

~~[Formula 3]~~



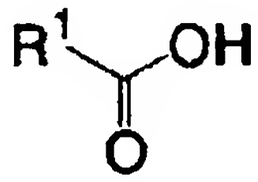
(a)



(a')

by reacting a carboxylic acid represented by the following formula (a2)

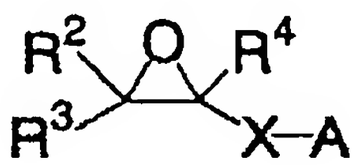
~~[Formula 2]~~



(a2)

to an epoxy silane represented by the following formula (a1)

~~[Formula 1]~~



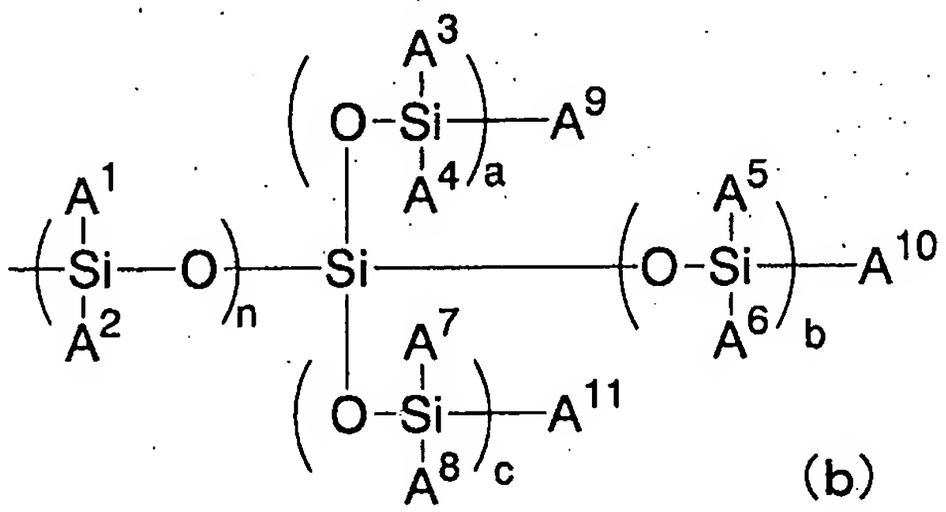
(a1)

in presence of a metal salt of the carboxylic acid represented by the general formula (a2), ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the reaction is carried out in presence of 0.05 wt% or more water in said reaction system, [[. (Here,]] wherein A denotes siloxanyl group, R^1 denotes a substituent with 1 to 20 carbons having a polymerizable group, [[.]] R^2 to R^4 respectively and independently denote hydrogen, a substituted or unsubstituted substituent with 1 to 20 carbons, or –X-A, [[.]] and X denotes a substituted or unsubstituted divalent substituent with 1 to 20 carbons.[[)]]

2. (Currently amended) A process for producing of a silicone compound, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the silicone compound obtained according to Claim 1 is purified by a silica gel column or an alumina column.

3. (Currently amended) A silicone compound obtained by the process according to Claim 1 [[or 2]], wherein the siloxanyl group A is an atomic group represented by the following formula (b), [[.]]

~~[Formula 4]~~



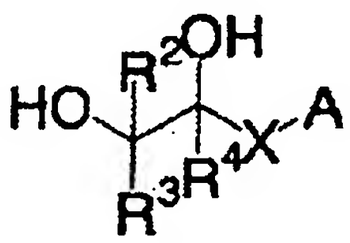
(b)

~~(In the formula~~ wherein, A^1 to A^{11} respectively and independently denote any one of hydrogen, a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl group with 1 to 20 carbon atoms and a substituted or unsubstituted aryl group with 6 to 20 carbons, [[.]] n denotes an integer of 0 to 200, a, b and c denote respectively and independently an integer of 0 to 20, [[.]] ~~However, the case of~~ and n = a = b = c = 0 is not included.[[)]]

4. (Original) A silicone compound according to Claim 3, wherein the siloxanyl group A is selected from the group consisting of tris(trimethylsiloxy)silyl group, bis(trimethylsiloxy)methylsilyl group and trimethylsiloxydimethylsilyl group.

5. (Currently amended) A silicone compound in which a content of a compound represented by the following general formula (y) is 0.4% or more and 3% or less,

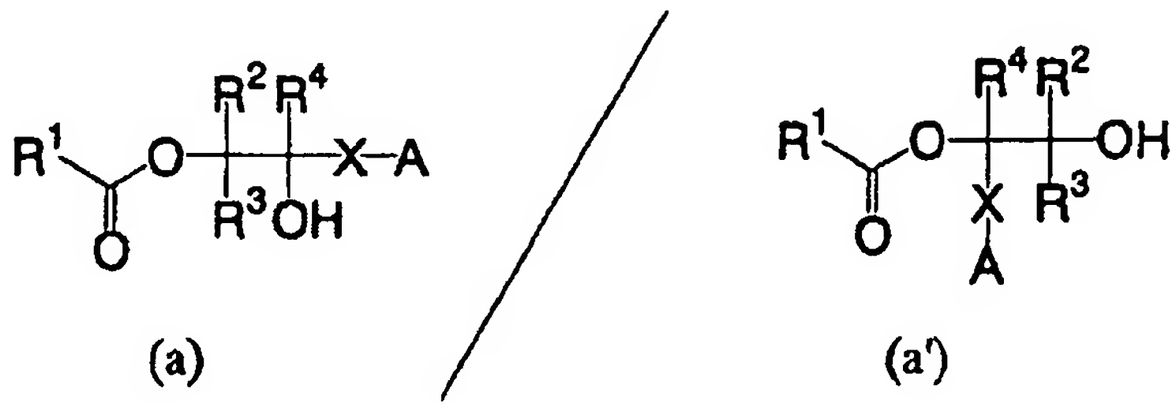
~~[Formula 5]~~



(y)

and the purity of the silicone compound represented by the following general formulas (a) and/or (a') is 87% or more, [[.]]

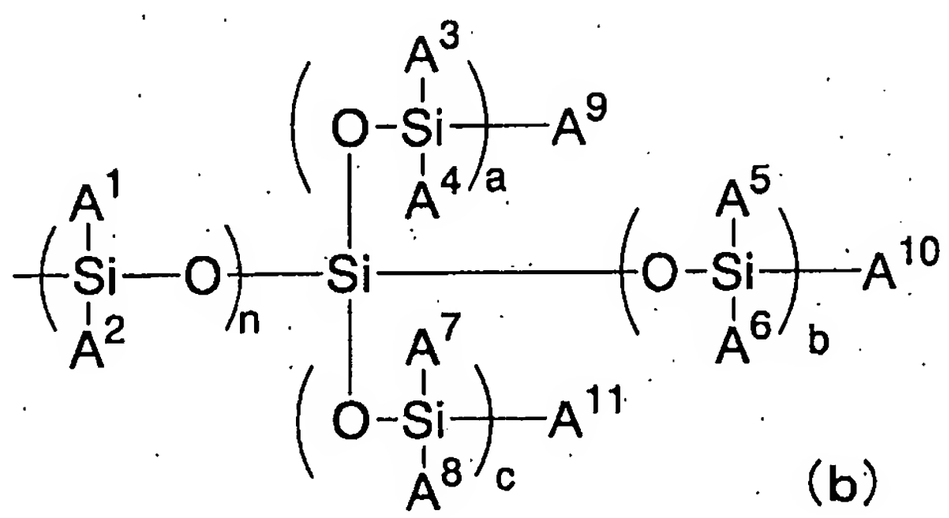
~~[Formula 6]~~



(a) (a')

(~~Here,~~ wherein A denotes a siloxanyl group, [[.]] R^1 denotes a substituent with 1 to 20 carbons having polymerizable group, [[.]] R^2 to R^4 respectively and independently denote hydrogen, a substituted or unsubstituted substituent with 1 to 20 carbons, or –X-A, [[.]] and X denotes a substituted or unsubstituted divalent substituent with 1 to 20 carbons.[[)]]

6. (New) A silicone compound obtained by the process according to Claim 2, wherein the siloxanyl group A is an atomic group represented by the following formula (b),



(b)

wherein, A^1 to A^{11} respectively and independently denote any one of hydrogen, a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl group with 1 to 20 carbon atoms and a substituted or unsubstituted aryl group with 6 to 20 carbons, n denotes an integer of 0 to 200, a, b and c denote respectively and independently an integer of 0 to 20, and n = a = b = c = 0 is not included.